FIRST COUSINS

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Thomas Lincoln Family

First Cousins

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

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LINCOLN LORE

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S FIRST COUSINS

Most of the Lincolns and Hankses in America have referred, in a casual way, to Abraham Lincoln as a cousin. If the original meaning of the term cousin (the child of a mother's sister) is retained, Abraham Lincoln had no cousins, as his mother was the only child of her parents. In the more commonly used form, wherein children of both uncles and aunts become first cousins, Lincoln had several relatives who would qualify as first cousins, but none by the name of Hanks. There were some half brothers and sisters of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, children by a second marriage of her mother, but their offspring cannot be considered as full cousins of Abraham Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln's father had two brothers, Mordecai and Josiah, and two sisters, Mary and Nancy. It is the children of these uncles and aunts who may be called with propriety the first cousins of Abraham Lincoln.

Children of Mordecai and Mary (Mudd) Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln 1819- 1852

The President's oldest cousin, son of Uncle Mordecai, bore his own name, Abraham Lincoln, and was about twelve years older than the President. This Cousin Abraham was born in Kentucky and on January 20, 1819, married Elizabeth Mudd, daughter of Hezekiah Mudd of Washington County. They had seven children, Priscilla, Parmelia, Mary Jane, Robert, Hezekiah, Nicolas, and Ellen. Abraham died about 1852 at Fountain Green, Illinois.

James Bradford Lincoln 1802 1837

The second son of Mordecai Lincoln was born about 1802 in Washington County, Kentucky, and married Frances Day, daughter of William and Frances (Childers) Day, in Grayson County, the same state, on January 1, 1821. They named their first child, Thomas Jefferson Lincoln. The names of their five other children follow: Elizabeth, Mary Rowena, Emily Susan, James Riley, and Charles Prentis. James Bradford Lincoln died in Hancock County, Illinois, November 13, 1837.

Mordecai Lincoln 1804 -1867

The youngest son of Mordecai and Mary Lincoln was named for his father and was born in 1804, in Washington County, Kentucky, not far from where the parents of President Lincoln were married in 1806. He remained a bachelor all his life and resided in Leitchfield, Kentucky, until 1839 when he joined the rest of the family at Fountain Green, Illinois, where he died in 1867.

Elizabeth Lincoln -1792-1858

Elizabeth, the oldest daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, was born in Washington County, Kentucky. She married Benjamin Mudd, son of Charles Mudd, by whom she had eleven children. The family migrated to Scotland County, Missouri.

Mary Rowena Lincoln

Little is known about Mary Rowena, daughter of Mordecai Lincoln. She married George Neely and at the time of her death three children survived her. Some of her descendants lived near Memphis, Missouri..

Martha Lincoln

Martha, the youngest daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, married Washington Neighbors, so Uncle Mordecai Lincoln not only had a grandson, Thomas Jefferson, but a son-in-law by the name of Washington. Martha had no children and died at Fountain Green, Illinois.

Children of Josiah and Katherine (Barlow) Lincoln

Barbara Lincoln 1802 ?

Barbara, the oldest daughter of Josiah Lincoln, born about 1802, in Washington County, Kentucky, was married in Harrison County, Indiana, November 4, 1819, to John Crutchfield.

Thomas Lincoln 80 - 1849

Thomas, the oldest son of Josiah Lincoln, was born in Washington County, in 1806, the year the President's parents were married. In 1825, at Leavenworth, Crawford County, Indiana, he married Sarah Weathers, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Bullington) Weathers. They had nine children: Rachel, Benjamin, Mordecai, Jacob, Washington, Warden, Joseph, William, and James. Abraham Lincoln's cousin, Thomas, probably named for Abraham's own father, died January 26, 1849.

Elizabeth Lincoln 1809 ?

Abraham Lincoln had two cousins by the name Elizabeth. The daughter of Josiah Lincoln by this name was born about the same time as the President. She was married July 17, 1826, to Isom Denton, in Harrison County, Indiana. The number or names of her children are not known.

Nancy Lincoln 1810 - 1842

This cousin of the President, Nancy, a daughter of Josiah, may have been named for Lincoln's own mother. She was born March 2, 1810, and, at seventeen years of age, married John Briscoe of Harrison County, Indiana. They had two sons and four daughters. Nancy Lincoln Briscoe died in Harrison County on July 31, 1842.

Jacob Lincoln 1815 -

The youngest son of Josiah, Jacob Lincoln, was born July 16, 1815, in Indiana, a year before the parents of Lincoln moved to that state. He married Martha Gibbs of Crawford County, November 20, 1839, and later on moved to Wayne County, Missouri. Jacob and Martha had eleven children, Mary, Thomas, William, James, Elizabeth, Jonathan, Joseph, Matilda, Katherine, Charles, and Rosanna.

Katherine Lincoln 1817 -

Little is known about the youngest child of Josiah Lincoln, Katherine, who was born about 1817 and married in 1836 to John Sullenger in Harrison County, Indiana.

Children of William and Nancy (Lincoln) Brumfield

Mary Brumfield 1803 - 1845

Mary, the eldest daughter of William and Nancy Brumfield, was born in 1803 in Hardin County, Kentucky. She married Ralph L. Crume, presumably her cousin, on July 1, 1827, and passed away October 9, 1845. The names of her children, if any, are not known.

Elizabeth Brumfield 1804 -

Elizabeth was born Dec. 3, 1804, in Hardin County and married William P. Nall in 1825. They had at least one child, John Nall, and possibly others.

Lucretia Brumfield

Lucretia Brumfield was also born in Hardin County and in 1835 married John Alston. There were two children born to this union, Lloyd and Brown, and possibly others.

Susan Brumfield

There were four Brumfield sisters but no boys in the family. Susan Brumfield is said to have died unmarried.

Children of Ralph and Mary (Lincoln) Crume

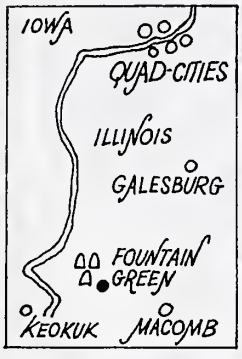
Sarah Crume

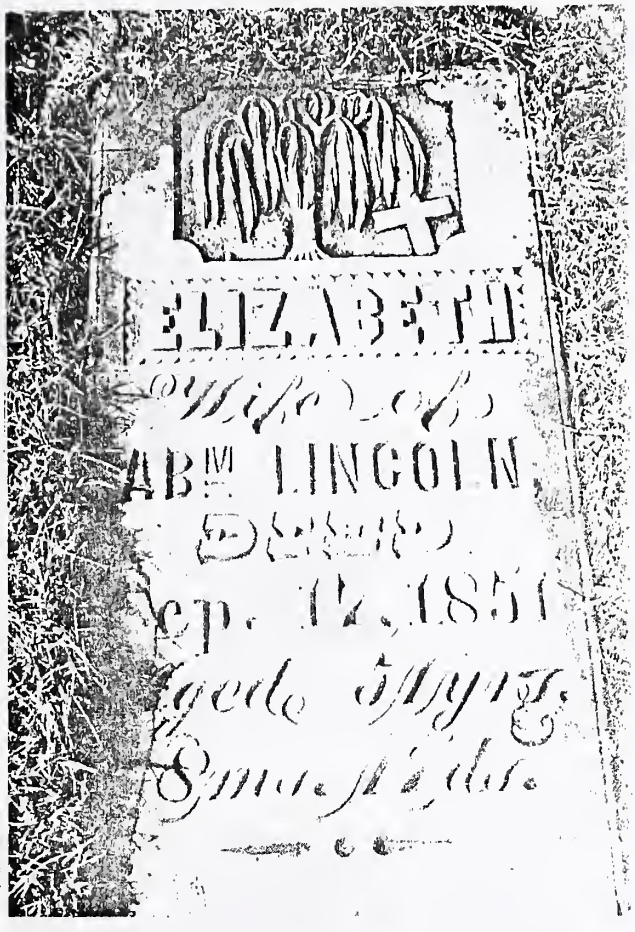
Sarah is the only daughter of Ralph and Mary Lincoln Crume about which we have positive evidence. Her father was married twice and both wives were named Mary. There were several children by the first marriage, but it is not known how many children there were by the second union. Sarah married James Hasty and they had a son, Ruben K.

William Crume

William Crume is said to have been a son of Ralph and Mary Crume and he married Louella Jones. They had one son, James, and possibly others.

This broken stone marks the grave of Abraham Lincoln, first cousin to the martyred President. The little cemetery is now a cow pasture and not one stone remains standing.





Though most of the stones are more than a century old, they are still in very good condition and the inscriptions on them are quite legible. This was the marker for the grave of Elizabeth Lincoln, wife of Abraham, the President's first cousin.

HERE LIES ABE LINCOLN

But It's Only A Relative Of The President. Here's The Story Of A Forgotten Illinois Cemetery Where A Dozen Of Lincoln's Kinfolk Are Buried

By Jim Arpy ● Photos By Harry Boll

FOUNTAIN GREEN, Ill. — The top-[illegible]led headstone in the forgotten cemetery [illegible] broken under wizened headgeapple trees, but through the fallen leaves and matted grass the name stands out — "Abraham Lincoln."

But the Great Emancipator rests in a world-famous tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield. Then who is this Abraham Lincoln who sleeps beneath this broken slab, his grave trampled by cattle and untended for more than half a century?

He was the Civil War president's first cousin. Scattered nearby are shattered, [illegible] clearly legible, stones marking the burial places of a dozen Lincoln relatives.

Only a handful know the location of [illegible] lonely little cemetery, all but obliterated by time and neglect. Cattle graze [illegible] the fallen stones, many partially [illegible] in mud.

• • •

PATIENT detective work by Howard [illegible] of Roseville, a dedicated Lincoln [illegible] led to the rediscovery of the burying [illegible] and graves of Lincoln's relatives. Since that time, he has pieced together [illegible] story and led a thus far unsuccessful campaign to reset the stones and [illegible] the cemetery as an historical [illegible]

Lincoln's uncle, Mordecai Lincoln Sr., [illegible] among the earliest settlers in Hancock County. He and his family lived in [illegible] Fountain Green, a village settled [illegible]. The Abraham Lincoln who is buried here was his son.

Mordecai and his family migrated [illegible] Kentucky, with the future President's father, Thomas, but moved on from New Salem to this rich farming area.

The grandfather of President Lincoln [illegible] Mordecai's son was named Abraham, and both boys were named after [illegible]. The Abraham buried here died Jan. [illegible] 1852, at the age of 54, never knowing [illegible] his cousin had achieved lasting [illegible]

[illegible] marble slab marks the grave [illegible] Abraham's wife, Elizabeth, who died [illegible] 1851, at the age of 51. Like the [illegible], this Abraham had a son, Robert; [illegible] grave is near his parents'.

[illegible] stones bear the names of J. B. [illegible] his wife, Frances, and their [illegible], Amanda and Martha, both of [illegible] died before the age of six.

Mordecai Lincoln Sr. was the patriarch of the Hancock County branch of the [illegible] family. He froze to death in a [illegible] during the winter of 1830-31.

• • •

MANUEL SAYS historical records [illegible] Mordecai was buried near the now [illegible] cemetery, but the exact location of his grave is unknown. Manuel has [illegible] able to locate it among others in [illegible] plot.

Abraham Lincoln's son, Robert, was [illegible] in the Union Army. His stone [illegible] he died Sept. 4, 1868, at the age [illegible]

James B. Lincoln, another son of Mordecai's, was the first justice of the [illegible] in the township, serving from 1832 [illegible] 36. The third son, Mordecai Jr., died [illegible] bachelor.

Old records indicate that the Abraham Lincoln buried here served as a grand juror in the October term of Hancock County Circuit Court in 1844 in nearby Carthage.

Conceivably the two Abrahams could have met then, since the future president traveled the court circuit in that part of Illinois.

Manuel says he has found evidence that Lincoln visited these relatives in 1858 while on a speaking tour at about the time of the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

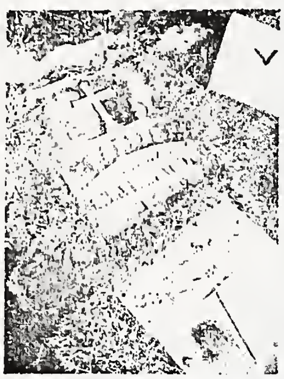
Manuel is a former state trooper, and now a jailer at the Warren County Jail.

"I knew from reading historical volumes that somewhere in Hancock County was a cemetery where several of Abraham Lincoln's relatives were buried, but no one knew where it was. I'd been trying to locate it for years," Manuel says.

"I guess I made six trips around the area until I finally found the cemetery after talking to an 80-year-old man who knew something about it.

"It was a real thrill when I brushed off a stone with a wire brush and there was the name 'Abraham Lincoln.'"

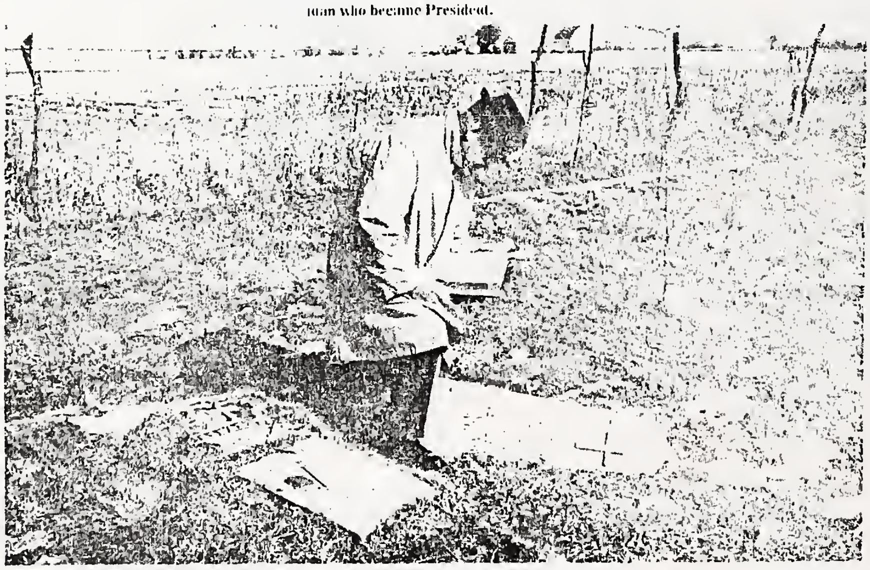
The cemetery is located on the John Mershon farm. One drives through a field, walks a quarter of a mile, and climbs a barbed-wire-topped fence to find it.



Partially covered by mud and grass, this stone once sat above the grave of Charles P. Lincoln, the son of James Lincoln, another of the former President's cousins.

More elaborate than many of the other fallen tombstones is this one, marking the final resting place of Robert Lincoln, a captain in the Civil War. He was the son of Abraham Lincoln, cousin of the man who became President.

Two of James Lincoln's daughters died at a very early age. This stone marks the grave of James and Amanda, who died shortly after her third birthday.



Using an historical reference book, Howard P. Manuel, Roseville, Ill., inspects fallen grave markers in the long abandoned Fountain Green Township cemetery near Macomb. Buried there are a dozen relatives of Abraham Lincoln.

Though there is now no access to [illegible] burying ground, it is known as the Fountain Green Township Cemetery and [illegible] deeded to the Bishop of Peoria by [illegible] Bishop of Chicago on July 23, 1877. Later on March 24, 1950, the cemetery [illegible] deeded to the Catholic Church of Carthage by the Bishop of Peoria.

Manuel's research indicates the cemetery was once in the churchyard of [illegible] Catholic church, which Thomas Lincoln, a second cousin of Abraham Lincoln, helped build in 1832. The chapel was used until 1857. A few partially buried stones still mark the church's foundation. Members of this branch of the Lincoln family were Catholics. The President's family were Protestants.

• • •

"THE LAST [illegible] know that [illegible] official recognition of the [illegible] in 1901 when someone took a photo of it. I've seen that picture and the [illegible] stones were standing then. [illegible] was abandoned and I suppose the [illegible] broke off most of the stones [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] through the [illegible] Swollen by spring rains [illegible] washed out [illegible] Manuel says. A road once ran to the cemetery, but it was abandoned when [illegible] cost of maintaining a small bridge [illegible] deemed too high.

"When I told the woman who [illegible] the farm what I was looking for, [illegible] there was a cemetery back in the pasture, but though she'd lived there [illegible] years she'd never examined it," Manuel notes.

By matching the broken stones with the remaining bases, Manuel has been able to pinpoint the location of most of the Lincoln graves.

Other families shared the [illegible] plot with the Lincolns — among them the Kellys, Campbells, McDonoughs and [illegible] — but their stones [illegible] [illegible] and broken and the graves [illegible] forgotten. Most graves have been there for more than a century.

[illegible] Lincoln [illegible] here [illegible] President Lincoln [illegible] and the wife of Mordecai Lincoln Sr. and the other the daughter of James [illegible] Lincoln.

[illegible] other Lincoln relatives [illegible] and Nicholas Lincoln, are buried [illegible] Carthage cemetery.

William K. [illegible] of the [illegible] State Historical Library has [illegible] Manuel that careful checking of the facts he has gathered about the abandoned cemetery agree substantially with information on file at the Historical Library.

The latest burial in the cemetery, according to the stones that can be read, indicates it was a Daniel Murray, who died Aug. 30, 1896.

Manuel says he has tried to interest various groups in a project to restore and preserve the cemetery, but nothing has been done, though some legislators have expressed concern.

"Maybe some group like the Highway Commission could undertake the job. It'll be a shame if we continue to let an historical site like this grow up in weeds," Manuel contends.

HE HERALD-WHIG
QUINCY, ILLINOIS Thursday, February 13, 1969

Carl Landrum's

Quincy quiz

If you have a question on Quincy or local area history, send it on a postcard with your name and address to Carl Landrum, Quincy Herald-Whig, Quincy, Illinois, 62301.

We've been asked to repeat the story of Abraham Lincoln and the Hancock County riot case. This was Abraham Lincoln, a first cousin of President Abraham Lincoln, and the son of Mordecai Lincoln, uncle of the President. To further complete the picture, President Lincoln's father, Thomas Lincoln, had two brothers, Mordecai and Josiah.

This branch of the family came from Kentucky to Hancock County, Ill., in 1830. Mordecai's son, Abraham, became Fountain Green's first justice of the peace—the same "peace" that he later broke! This Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky in 1795, where he married a Miss Elizabeth Mudd; he died Jan. 22, 1852, and she on Sept. 17, 1851.

(The Abraham Lincoln who became President of these United States visited Hancock County more than once, the first time in 1849 when he served as defense counsel for an accused murderer, William Fraim.)

Hancock County's Abraham Lincoln, George W. Howard, John Brewer, Hiccason Wright, Basel Wright, Zachariah W. Tyler, Ute Perkins, Jr., John Marten and Raymond H. Mudd were indicted by a grand jury at Carthage in April of 1835 on a charge of riot.

The complaint had been brought by Jabez A. Beebe. A request for a change of venue was filed on Sept. 30, 1835, for the defendants felt that they could not get a fair trial in Hancock County. Sheriff Edson Whitney of Hancock County received the defendants' bond of $100, signed by George Knicely, Benjamin E. Mudd, James B. Lincoln, and Patrick Camberon.

The trial was held at a special session of the circuit court of Adams County in November, 1838, that term of court being called in September that year. The record of the trial is on page 374 of the trial record book, 1829-1839.

Judge Richard M. Young was on the bench, and the record shows that one attorney for the defendants was a Mr. Ralstrom. The defendants were all present except John Martin and Ute Perkins, and all pleaded "Not Guilty."

Witnesses for the prosecution were James Hedges, Ammi Rathborn, William Lincoln, David Prentice, Jesse Hadley, James Welch, Talbot Shipley, Ute Perkins, Jr., Jesse Brockway, William Pryor, Erastus Benton and John Ryan. Witnesses for the defense were Ira Gridley, Jeremiah Stone, John Yager, Henry Honoho, James Yager, Anson Hobert, Samuel Childers, William Lincoln, John Dedman, Josiah Hobert, Daniel Prentice, William Duff, James Lincoln, John Shipley and Benjamin E. Mudd.

Members of the jury were Barzika Clark, George Wood, Henry B. Schwartz, William S. Walton, Martin Turner, A. B. Kirkpatrick, Lewis B. Smith, Ben J. Laughlin, Jonathan Crow, Henry Painter, John B. Atherton and Preston Morris. The jury was impanelled on Nov. 10 and the following day rendered a verdict of guilty. On Nov. 12 a fine of $10 and costs was assessed each of the men. The plaintiff's cost was $25.25 of which Abraham Lincoln had to pay one seventh. The state's attorney would receive $5. The records do not show if the fines were paid.